

REMARKS**Disposition of Claims**

Claims 1-23, 25 and 27-39 are allowed.

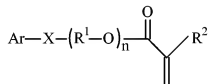
Claim 40 is rejected.

§ 102 Rejections

Claim 40 stands rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as being anticipated by Yoshida et al. (EP 0126397).

Claim 40 recites,

“A pressure-sensitive adhesive having an index of refraction of at least 1.48 and comprising an aromatic monomer having the following formula:



wherein:

Ar is an aromatic group which is unsubstituted or substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of Br_y and (R³)_z

wherein y represents the number of bromine substituents attached to the aromatic group and is an integer from 0 to 3;

R³ is a straight or branched alkyl of 2 to 12 carbons; and

z represents the number of R³ substituents attached to the aromatic ring and is an integer from 0 to 1,

provided that both y and z are not zero when Ar is substituted;

X is oxygen or sulfur;

n is 0 to 3;

R¹ is an unsubstituted straight or branched alkyl linking group of 2 to 12 carbons;

and

R^2 is either H or CH_3 ; and
plasticizer, tackifier, and mixtures thereof.”

As previously argued, there are many polymers of acrylates that are not inherently pressure sensitive adhesives. Yoshida et al. fails to teach a pressure sensitive adhesive comprising the recited monomer is combination with plasticizer, tackifier, and mixtures thereof. Accordingly, Yoshida et al. fails to teach the pressure sensitive adhesive of Claim 40.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

August 8, 2006

Date

By: /Carolyn A. Fischer/

Carolyn A. Fischer, Reg. No.: 39,091

Telephone No.: 651-575-3915

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833